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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for facilitating integrity of an assembly employable by application programs during runtime, comprising:
 - providing an assembly with ~~[[a]]~~ an assembly manifest that contains a list of modules that make up the assembly;
 - providing the assembly manifest with a hash of the contents of at least one module of the list of modules; ~~and~~
 - providing the assembly manifest with a hash of a manifest of at least one other assembly that the assembly depends on; and
 - comparing the hash retained in the assembly manifest with a hash of the at least one module obtained at runtime to identify whether a runtime version of the at least one module is substantially similar to a version utilized at build time of the assembly.
2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, providing the assembly manifest with ~~[[a]]~~ the hash of the contents of at least one module of the list of modules comprises providing the assembly manifest with a hash of each module of the list of modules that constitutes the assembly.
3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising providing identity information in the assembly manifest ~~of the assembly.~~
4. (Original) The method of claim 3, the identity information comprising publisher information and version information.
5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising providing a hash of the contents of the assembly at the end of the assembly.

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6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising determining if the contents of the assembly have been modified by determining an actual hash of the contents of the at least one module of the list of modules and comparing the actual hash with the hash of the contents of the at least one module of the list of modules residing in the assembly manifest of the assembly.
7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6, further comprising determining if the publisher of the assembly is trustworthy if the assembly has been modified.
8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7, determining if the publisher of the assembly is trustworthy if the assembly has been modified ~~comprising~~ comprises checking version information and publisher name information residing in the assembly manifest of the assembly.
9. (Cancelled).
10. (Currently amended) A method for facilitating integrity of assemblies employable by application programs during runtime, comprising:
providing an assembly with ~~[[a]]~~ an assembly manifest that contains a list of referenced assemblies that the assembly depends on;
providing the assembly manifest with a hash of a manifest of at least one referenced assembly of the list of referenced assemblies; and
analyzing the hash provided to the assembly manifest and a second hash of the manifest of the at least one referenced assembly computed at runtime to determine whether changes have been made to the at least one referenced assembly between runtime and at build time of the assembly.
11. (Currently amended) The method of claim 10, providing the assembly manifest with ~~[[a]]~~ the hash of the manifest of at least one referenced assembly of the list of referenced assemblies comprises providing the assembly manifest with a hash of each referenced assembly of the list of referenced assemblies.

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12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 10, further comprising providing identity information in the assembly manifest ~~of the assembly~~.
13. (Original) The method of claim 12, the identity information comprising publisher information and version information.
14. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10, further comprising providing a hash of the contents of the assembly at the end of the assembly.
15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 10, further comprising determining if the contents of the at least one referenced assembly have been modified by determining an actual hash of the contents of the at least one referenced assembly of the list of referenced assemblies and comparing the actual hash with ~~[[the]]~~ a hash of the contents of the at least one referenced assembly of the list of referenced assemblies residing in the assembly manifest ~~of the assembly~~.
16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 15, further comprising determining if the publisher of the at least one referenced assembly is trustworthy if the at least one referenced assembly has been modified.
17. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, determining if the publisher of the at least one referenced assembly is trustworthy if the at least one referenced assembly has been modified comprises checking version information and publisher name information residing in ~~[[a]]~~ the manifest of the at least one referenced assembly.

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18. (Currently amended) A computer readable medium having at least one computer executable component employable by an application program at runtime comprising:
an assembly including [[a]] an assembly manifest that contains a list of at least one referenced assembly that the assembly references, a first hash of a manifest of the at least one referenced assembly, a list of modules that make up the assembly and a hash of the contents of at least one module of the list of modules, the hash of the contents of the at least one module is utilized to control which versions of the modules are employed in connection with the assembly at runtime.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently amended) The computer readable medium of claim ~~19~~18, the assembly manifest including identity information and version information.

21. (Currently amended) The computer readable medium of claim ~~19~~18, the assembly being a dynamically linked library.

22. (Currently amended) A computer readable medium having at least one computer executable component employable by an application program at runtime comprising:
an assembly including [[a]] an assembly manifest that contains a list of at least one referenced assembly that the assembly references and a hash of the contents of a manifest of the at least one referenced assembly, the hash is compared to a second hash produced at runtime to evaluate whether the at least one referenced assembly is a same version as the at least one referenced assembly utilized at build time of the assembly.

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23. (Currently amended) A system for facilitating integrity of assemblies employable by application programs at runtime, the system comprising:

a first component that provides [[a]] an assembly manifest for an assembly, the assembly manifest having a list of modules making up the assembly and a list of at least one referenced assembly that the assembly references; and

a second component that provides the assembly manifest with a hash of at least one module of the list of modules and a hash of a manifest of the at least one referenced assembly, the hash of the at least one module is compared with a hash of the at least one module generated at runtime to identify changes in the content of the at least one module.

24. (Previously presented) The system of claim 23, further comprising a third component adapted to compare the hash of said at least one module with an actual hash value of the at least one module.

25. (Currently amended) The system of claim 24, the assembly manifest including identity and version information and the third component adapted to determine if the assembly should be executed based on a review of the originator and version information, if the hash of the at least one module in the assembly manifest and the actual hash value of the at least one module are different.

26. (Original) The system of claim 23, further comprising a binding component adapted to provide binding policy information for determining a version of an assembly that an application program will run if another assembly having the same name resides on the system.

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27. (Currently amended) A system for facilitating integrity of assemblies employable by application programs at runtime, the system comprising:

a first component that provides [[a]] an assembly manifest for an assembly, the assembly manifest having at least one referenced assembly, the at least one referenced assembly comprising a manifest;

a second component that provides the assembly manifest with a hash of the manifest of the at least one referenced assembly; and

a third component that compares the hash of the at least one referenced assembly in the assembly manifest with an actual hash value of the at least one referenced assembly to identify version changes.

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Original) The system of claim 27, further comprising a binding component adapted to provide the third component with binding policy information.

30. (Currently amended) A system for facilitating integrity of an assembly employable by application programs at runtime, the system comprising:

means for relating [[a]] an assembly manifest having a list of at least one related assembly to an assembly, the at least one related assembly comprising a manifest;

means for providing the assembly manifest with a hash of the manifest of the at least one related assembly; and

means for evaluating integrity of the assembly by comparing the hash value with a second hash value computed at runtime.

31. (Original) The system of claim 30, the at least one related assembly being a module.

32. (Original) The system of claim 30, the at least one related assembly being a referenced assembly.

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33. (Currently amended) The system of claim 30, further comprising means for comparing a hash value of the at least one related assembly in the assembly manifest to an actual hash value of the at least one related assembly.
34. (Original) The system of claim 30, further comprising means for establishing a binding policy.
35. (Original) The system of claim 30, at least one of the assembly and the at least one related assembly being a dynamically linked library.